

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A mail-order system for members by which a member purchases commodities by accessing a mail-order site side server through a network using such personal authentication information for authenticating a member as member identification information and a password,  
5 comprising:

registration unit for registering physical characteristics of each said member in advance; and  
processing unit responsive to application of  
10 physical characteristics by a purchaser for comparing the applied physical characteristic information and the physical characteristic information registered at said registration unit to conduct authentication and determining whether connection to said mail-order site  
15 side server through said network is allowed or not according to authentication results.

2. The mail-order system as set forth in claim 1, further comprising

a server for members for authenticating said member, wherein

5 said registration unit and said processing unit are provided at said server for members.

3. The mail-order system as set forth in claim 1,

further comprising

unit for enciphering said personal authentication  
information and said physical characteristic information  
so as to be in correlation with each other and  
registering the enciphered information at said  
registration unit, and reading and decoding said  
information enciphered.

4. The mail-order system as set forth in claim 1,  
further comprising

unit for enciphering said personal authentication  
information and said physical characteristic information  
so as to be in correlation with each other and  
registering the enciphered information at said  
registration unit, and reading and decoding said  
information enciphered, wherein

said decoding unit decodes said personal  
authentication information when results of  
authentication of a purchaser's physical characteristics  
applied at the purchase of a commodity and said  
registered physical characteristics coincide with each  
other.

5. The mail-order system as set forth in claim 1,  
further comprising

unit for enciphering said personal authentication  
information and said physical characteristic information

5       so as to be in correlation with each other and  
registering the enciphered information at said  
registration unit, and reading and decoding said  
information enciphered, wherein

10               said decoding unit decodes said personal  
authentication information when results of  
authentication of a purchaser's physical characteristics  
applied at the purchase of a commodity and said  
registered physical characteristics coincide with each  
other, and

15               said processing unit transmits said personal  
authentication information decoded to said mail-order  
site side server.

6.       A mail-order system for members by which a member  
makes a settlement for mail-ordering by accessing a  
mail-order settlement server through a network using  
such authentication information for authenticating a  
5       card of a member who makes a settlement for mail-  
ordering as identification information and a password,  
comprising:

              registration unit for registering physical  
characteristics of each said member in advance; and

10               processing unit responsive to application of  
physical characteristics of one who makes a settlement  
and to application of physical characteristics by a  
purchaser for comparing the applied physical

characteristic information and the physical  
15 characteristic information registered at said  
registration unit to conduct authentication and  
determining whether connection to said mail-order  
settlement server through said network is allowed or not  
according to authentication results.

20 7. The mail-order system as set forth in claim 6,  
further comprising

a server for members for authenticating said  
member, wherein

5 said registration unit and said processing unit  
are provided at said server for members.

8. The mail-order system as set forth in claim 6,  
further comprising

unit for enciphering said personal authentication  
information and said physical characteristic information  
5 so as to be in correlation with each other and  
registering the enciphered information at said  
registration unit, and reading and decoding said  
information enciphered.

9. The mail-order system as set forth in claim 6,  
further comprising

unit for enciphering said personal authentication  
information and said physical characteristic information

5       so as to be in correlation with each other and  
registering the enciphered information at said  
registration unit, and reading and decoding said  
information enciphered, wherein

          said decoding unit decodes said personal  
10       authentication information when results of  
authentication of physical characteristics of one who  
makes a settlement applied at the settlement of mail-  
ordering and said registered physical characteristics  
coincide with each other.

15       10.       The mail-order system as set forth in claim 6,  
further comprising

          unit for enciphering said personal authentication  
information and said physical characteristic information  
5       so as to be in correlation with each other and  
registering the enciphered information at said  
registration unit, and reading and decoding said  
information enciphered, wherein

          said decoding unit decodes said personal  
10       authentication information when results of  
authentication of physical characteristics of one who  
makes a settlement applied at the settlement of mail-  
ordering and said registered physical characteristics  
coincide with each other, and

15       said processing unit transmits said personal  
authentication information decoded to said mail-order

settlement server.

11. An Internet connection system enabling connection to at least one of contracted providers by member's access to the Internet through a network using such personal authentication information for authenticating a member as member identification information and a password, comprising:

registration unit for registering physical characteristics of each said member in advance, and processing unit responsive to application of physical characteristics by one who makes a connection for comparing the applied physical characteristic information and the physical characteristic information registered at said registration unit to conduct authentication and determining whether connection to said provider through said network is allowed or not according to authentication results.

12. The Internet connection system as set forth in claim 11, further comprising

a server for members for authenticating said member, wherein

said registration unit and said processing unit are provided at said server for members.

13. The Internet connection system as set forth in

claim 11, further comprising

unit for enciphering said personal authentication  
information and said physical characteristic information  
so as to be in correlation with each other and  
registering the enciphered information at said  
registration unit, and reading and decoding said  
information enciphered.

14. The Internet connection system as set forth in  
claim 11, further comprising

unit for enciphering said personal authentication  
information and said physical characteristic information  
so as to be in correlation with each other and  
registering the enciphered information at said  
registration unit, and reading and decoding said  
information enciphered, wherein

said decoding unit decodes said personal  
authentication information when results of  
authentication of physical characteristics of one who  
makes a connection applied at the connection and said  
registered physical characteristics coincide with each  
other.

15. The Internet connection system as set forth in  
claim 11, further comprising

unit for enciphering said personal authentication  
information and said physical characteristic information

5       so as to be in correlation with each other and  
registering the enciphered information at said  
registration unit, and reading and decoding said  
information enciphered, wherein

10               said decoding unit decodes said personal  
authentication information when results of  
authentication of physical characteristics of one who  
makes a connection applied at the connection and said  
registered physical characteristics coincide with each  
other, and

15               said processing unit transmits said personal  
authentication information decoded to said provider.

16.       A mail-ordering method for members by which a  
member purchases commodities by accessing a mail-order  
site side server through a network using such personal  
authentication information for authenticating a member  
5       as member identification information and a password,  
comprising the steps of:

              registering physical characteristics of each said  
member in advance; and

10               in response to application of physical  
characteristics by a purchaser, comparing the applied  
physical characteristic information and the physical  
characteristic information registered at said  
registration unit to conduct authentication and  
determining whether connection to said mail-order site



15 side server through said network is allowed or not  
according to authentication results.

17. The mail-ordering method as set forth in claim 16,  
further comprising the step of

enciphering said personal authentication  
information and said physical characteristic information  
5 so as to be in correlation with each other and  
registering the enciphered information at said  
registration unit, and reading and decoding said  
information enciphered.

18. The mail-ordering method as set forth in claim 16,  
further comprising the step of

enciphering said personal authentication  
information and said physical characteristic information  
5 so as to be in correlation with each other and  
registering the enciphered information at said  
registration unit, and reading and decoding said  
information enciphered, wherein

said personal authentication information is  
10 decoded when results of authentication of a purchaser's  
physical characteristics applied at the purchase of a  
commodity and said registered physical characteristics  
coincide with each other.

19. The mail-ordering method as set forth in claim 16,

further comprising the step of

enciphering said personal authentication  
information and said physical characteristic information  
so as to be in correlation with each other and  
registering the enciphered information at said  
registration unit, and reading and decoding said  
information enciphered, wherein

said personal authentication information is  
decoded when results of authentication of a purchaser's  
physical characteristics applied at the purchase of a  
commodity and said registered physical characteristics  
coincide with each other, and

said personal authentication information decoded  
is transmitted to said mail-order site side server.

20. A mail-ordering method for members by which a  
member makes a settlement for mail-ordering by accessing  
a mail-order settlement server through a network using  
such authentication information for authenticating a  
card of a member who makes a settlement for mail-  
ordering as identification information and a password,  
comprising the steps of:

registering physical characteristics of each said  
member in advance; and

in response to application of physical  
characteristics of one who makes a settlement and to  
application of physical characteristics by a purchaser

for comparing the applied physical characteristic  
information and the physical characteristic information  
15 registered at said registration unit to conduct  
authentication and determining whether connection to  
said mail-order settlement server through said network  
is allowed or not according to authentication results.

21. The mail-ordering method as set forth in claim 20,  
further comprising the step of

enciphering said personal authentication  
information and said physical characteristic information  
5 so as to be in correlation with each other and  
registering the enciphered information at said  
registration unit, and reading and decoding said  
information enciphered.

22. The mail-ordering method as set forth in claim 20,  
further comprising the step of

enciphering said personal authentication  
information and said physical characteristic information  
5 so as to be in correlation with each other and  
registering the enciphered information at said  
registration unit, and reading and decoding said  
information enciphered, wherein

said personal authentication information is  
10 decoded when results of authentication of physical  
characteristics of one who makes a settlement applied at

the settlement of mail-ordering and said registered physical characteristics coincide with each other.

23. The mail-ordering method as set forth in claim 20, further comprising the step of

enciphering said personal authentication information and said physical characteristic information so as to be in correlation with each other and registering the enciphered information at said registration unit, and reading and decoding said information enciphered, wherein

said personal authentication information is decoded when results of authentication of physical characteristics of one who makes a settlement applied at the settlement of mail-ordering and said registered physical characteristics coincide with each other, and

said personal authentication information decoded is transmitted to said mail-order settlement server.

24. An Internet connection method enabling connection to at least one of contracted providers by member's access to the Internet through a network using such personal authentication information for authenticating a member as member identification information and a password, comprising the steps of:

registering physical characteristics of each said member in advance; and

in response to application of physical  
10 characteristics by one who makes a connection, comparing  
the applied physical characteristic information and the  
physical characteristic information registered at said  
registration unit to conduct authentication and  
determining whether connection to said provider through  
15 said network is allowed or not according to  
authentication results.

25. The Internet connection method as set forth in  
claim 24, further comprising the step of  
enciphering said personal authentication  
information and said physical characteristic information  
5 so as to be in correlation with each other and  
registering the enciphered information at said  
registration unit, and reading and decoding said  
information enciphered.

26. The Internet connection method as set forth in  
claim 24, further comprising the step of  
enciphering said personal authentication  
information and said physical characteristic information  
5 so as to be in correlation with each other and  
registering the enciphered information at said  
registration unit, and reading and decoding said  
information enciphered, wherein

said personal authentication information is

10        decoded when results of authentication of physical  
characteristics of one who makes a connection applied at  
the connection and said registered physical  
characteristics coincide with each other.

27.        The Internet connection method as set forth in  
claim 24, further comprising the step of

5                enciphering said personal authentication  
information and said physical characteristic information  
so as to be in correlation with each other and  
registering the enciphered information at said  
registration unit, and reading and decoding said  
information enciphered, wherein

10                said personal authentication information is  
decoded when results of authentication of physical  
characteristics of one who makes a connection applied at  
the connection and said registered physical  
characteristics coincide with each other, and

15                said personal authentication information decoded  
is transmitted to said provider.